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tubers; those cultivated for their stalks or leaves; those useful from their flowers or the parts enveloping them; fruits and grains. The third part is devoted to a résumé and conclusions, with valuable statistics.

The work is, of course, authoritative and is, moreover, exceedingly interesting. With it should be read the lengthy review of the work, by Dr. Asa Gray and J. Hammond Trumbull, in the *American Journal of Science* for April and May, 1883, containing valuable additions relative chiefly to American plants.

JACKSON'S VEGETABLE TECHNOLOGY.<sup>1</sup>—This is evidently a most carefully prepared bibliography of economic botany, and must prove of great utility. The author purposely excluded all books devoted to silk and cochineal, as not being strictly within the limits of the title as settled by the Index Society; and "most reluctantly the subject of the vine, its culture and products, simply on the ground of its enormous extent." The bibliography of the vine, he adds, in all its bearings would require a lifetime for its compilation. He has also excluded books and papers of simply horticultural, therapeutic, chemical, commercial or manufacturing interests, unless they contained a sufficient account of the raw products, its cultivation or whence obtained to justify their citation. The author does not claim that the work is complete, saying that "a complete bibliography of economic botany would require the labor of years." The number of entries in the present book is 3580, exclusive of translations and different editions. The index fills nearly 100 pages, is comprehensive, and adds greatly, of course, to the usefulness of the work.

SMITH'S DICTIONARY OF ECONOMIC PLANTS.<sup>2</sup>—The scope of this work is sufficiently indicated by the title; it is not confined to the cultivated plants. The author was officially connected, for more than forty years, with the Kew Gardens, and was thus practically acquainted with the largest collection of living plants, exotic and native, ever brought together. In regard to those points which DeCandolle has worked out with such care, the present work is deficient, still it is a useful book, arranged in the form of an index or dictionary.

#### RECENT BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS.

*Engelmann, Geo.*—The mean and extreme daily temperature in St. Louis for forty-seven years, as calculated from daily observations. Ext. Trans. St. Louis Acad. Sci., Vol. IV, 1884. From F. E. Nipher.

*Nipher, F. E.*—On the expression of electrical resistance in terms of a velocity. Ext. Trans. St. Louis Acad. of Science, Vol. IV, 1884. From the author.

<sup>1</sup> *Vegetable Technology*. A contribution towards a bibliography of economic botany, with a comprehensive subject-index. By BENJAMIN DAYDON JACKSON. Founded upon the collections of George James Symonds. London, published for the Index Society. 1882. 8vo, pp. 355.

<sup>2</sup> *A Dictionary of popular names of the Plants which furnish the natural and acquired wants of man in all matters of domestic and general economy. Their history, products and uses.* By JOHN SMITH. London, Macmillan & Co. 1882. 8vo, pp. 457.

- Barrois, Chas.*—Memoire sur les Schistes Metamorphiques de l'île de Croix (Morbihan). Ext. des Ann. de la Soc. Geol. du Nord, Lille.
- Memoire sur les Dictyospongidae des Psammites du Condroz. Ext. idem. Both from the author.
- Lydekker, R.*—Palæontologica Indica, Ser. x, Vol. III, Part 1. Additional Siwalik Perissodactyla and Proboscidea. Calcutta. 1884. From the author.
- Synopsis of the fossil Vertebrata of India, and note on the Bijori Labyrinthodont. From the author.
- Cook, G. H.*—Annual report of the State Geologist of New Jersey for 1883. Camden, 1883. From the State geologist.
- Loring, G. B.*—Report of the Commissioner of Agriculture for 1883. Washington, 1883. From the Commissioner.
- Vaillant, Leon.*—Exposition Univ. Internat. 1878. Rapports du Jury International. Les Poissons, Crustacés et Mollusques. Paris, 1880.
- Remarque sur les affinités naturelles de Poissons Malacopterygiens Abdominaux.
- Sur le genre *Ptychogaster* (Pomel), Chelonien fossile de Saint-Gerand-le-Puy.
- Nouvelles Archives du Museum D'Histoire Naturelle. Notice sur la Grande Salamandre du Japon, *Cryptobranchus japonicus* V. D. Hoeven.
- Note sur les Exemplaires du *Bagrus Buchananii* provenant du voyage de V. Jacquemont. Ext. Bull. de la Soc. Philome. de Paris, 1882.
- Vaillant, Leon, et Bocourt.*—Mission scientifique au Mexique et dans L'Amerique Centrale. 4<sup>me</sup> Partie. Etudes sur les Poissons. Paris, 1883. All from Leon Vaillant.
- Allen, Alf., et al.*—Journal of Microscopy and Natural Science, April, 1884.
- Whitfield, R. P.*—Notice of some new species of primordial fossils in the collections of the Museum of Nat. Hist. N. Y. Ext. Bulletin of the Amer. Mus.
- Hitchcock C. H.*—Geological sections across New Hampshire and Vermont. Ext. Bulletin of the Amer. Mus. Both from the Amer. Mus. N. Y.
- Scudder, S. H.*—Two new and diverse types of Carboniferous Myriapods.
- The species of *Mylacris*, a Carboniferous genus of Cockroaches. Both in memoirs of the Boston Society Nat. Hist., Vol. III, No. IX. From the author.
- Parker, W. K.*—On the skeleton of the Marsipobranch Fishes. Part I. The Myxinoidei (*Myxine* and *Bdellostoma*). Part II. *Petromyzon*. Ext. Philos. Trans. Royal Soc., Part II, 1883. From the author.
- On the structure and development of the skull in the Crocodilia. Ext. Trans. Zool. Soc., Vol XI, Part IX, 1883. From the author,

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## GENERAL NOTES.

### GEOLOGY AND PALÆONTOLOGY.

ON THE FOSSIL FLORA OF GREENLAND.—Through Professor O. Heer's researches, 617 species of fossil plants are now known from Greenland, of which 335 belong to the Cretaceous and 282 to the Tertiary epoch. The Cretaceous plants occur in three distinct stages, described as the beds of Kome, Atane and Patort.

In the *Kome beds* vascular *Cryptogamia* (especially *Gleicheniæ*) and *Gymnosperms* (namely, ten *Cycadeæ*, forms analogous to the *Zamiæ*, and twenty-one *Conifers*, including five *Sequoiæ*) are found almost exclusively. The *Dicotyledoneæ* are represented only by a single species, *Populus primaeva*. The general character of the flora of these deposits, which may be compared with the *Urgonian strata*, indicates a subtropical climate.